

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: New Jersey	
COUNTY: Essex	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER JUL 31 1972	DATE

1. NAME	
COMMON: Pan American C.M.A. Church	
AND/OR HISTORIC: Christ Church	

2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: 76 Prospect Street, south of Ferry Street			
CITY OR TOWN: Newark			
STATE: New Jersey	CODE: 34	COUNTY: Essex	CODE: 013

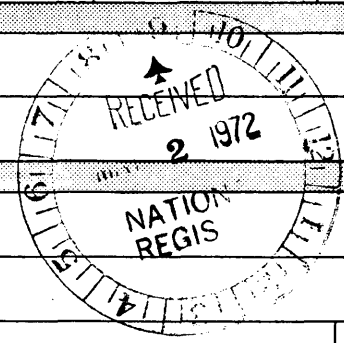
3. CLASSIFICATION			
CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP		STATUS
☐ District ☐ Site ☐ Object ☒ Building ☐ Structure	☐ Public ☒ Private ☐ Both	Public Acquisition: ☐ In Process ☐ Being Considered	☐ Occupied ☒ Unoccupied ☐ Preservation work in progress Yes: ☒ Restricted ☐ Unrestricted ☐ No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
☐ Agricultural ☐ Commercial ☐ Educational ☐ Entertainment	☐ Government ☐ Industrial ☐ Military ☐ Museum	☐ Park ☐ Private Residence ☒ Religious ☐ Scientific	☐ Transportation ☐ Other (Specify) Apparently not being used pending repairs

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY			
OWNER'S NAME: Pan American C.M.A. Church			
STREET AND NUMBER: 76 Prospect Street			
CITY OR TOWN: Newark	STATE: New Jersey	CODE: 34	

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION			
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Essex County Hall of Records			
STREET AND NUMBER: High Street			
CITY OR TOWN: Newark	STATE: New Jersey	CODE: 34	

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS			
TITLE OF SURVEY: New Jersey Historic Sites Inventory			
DATE OF SURVEY: ☐ Federal ☒ State ☐ County ☐ Local			
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Office of Historic Sites			
STREET AND NUMBER: Box 1420			
CITY OR TOWN: Trenton	STATE: New Jersey	CODE: 34	

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



STATE: New Jersey	COUNTY: Essex	ENTRY NUMBER JUL 31 1972	DATE

7. Description

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	☐ Excellent	☐ Good	☒ Fair	☐ Deteriorated	☐ Ruins	☐ Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	☐ Altered	☒ Unaltered	☐ Moved	☒ Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

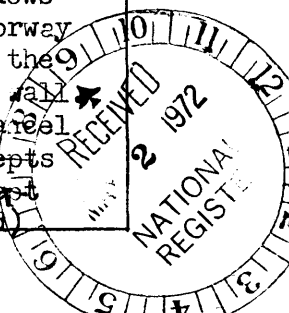
The church is found in a section of brownstones very much the same in style as the church. The detached parish buildings, although not of the same style, have mellowed with time. The churchyard, therefore, has the appearance of an English country church yard.

A fire, several years ago, did not do any damage to the basic architectural design of Frank Mills.

Kenneth E. Schnall provides this description: "The exterior of the church is constructed of a heavy brownstone which is a combination of both square and irregular shaped stone. A simple rectangular shape is used in the buttressing. The use of this irregular shaped stone fits quite well the sharp stone corniced gable and low side walls. The church is cruciform in shape and is similar in style to an early English country church. The outside walls are low and topped by a sharp pointed shingle roof. The front gable which is the focal point from the street has a sharp roofed bell cote (or cote) with a single bell opening. It is set on two long set off buttresses that hold the center of the gable wall on each side of a center lancet window. The foundation is a heavy stone and extends beyond the line of the wall. The small windows in the side walls are set deep and are arranged between small but heavy buttresses with weatherings. Short walls of the transepts and the higher apse walls are like those in the front side walls. The stone cornicing and window design is also similar to the front and side walls. It is obvious that a real attempt was made to relate the materials and design in the newer additions to the building as closely as possible to the original elements.

The church has a long central nave, a deep chancel with a small apse, and short transepts. The roof line in the nave and transepts has a steep pitch. A progression of principal rafters move down the length of the nave while the roof is supported by a set of five heavy tie beams. These beams are set high in the pitch of the roof on heavy collar braces that transmit the weight of the roof to the lower wall. Short curved braces are set within the curve of the side of each collar brace. These side supports extend down to about the center of the wall and are set on single heavy corbel. This heavy truss system that locks the high pitched ceiling together is in sharp contrast to the narrower, even rows of ceiling boards. A wide wooden hang molding runs the length of the wall separating the exposed wooden roof end from the plaster wall. The roof in the transepts are similar to those in the nave except that support is provided by only one side brace and collar. In addition to this added support, is provided a set of exposed heavy timber beams which are engaged in the gable walls of the transepts. The west gable wall of the church has a long flat rectangle that is pierced by three narrow lancet windows. A single window is set above two flanking ones so that they follow the shape of the wall. Stain glass in all the windows is of a plain unadorned design which provides the church with a warm mellow light. The sills throughout the church have deep sloping sills that reinforce the lancet shapes of the windows against the darker valves of the flat open areas of the wall. A doorway below the middle of the south wall provides entrance to the rear of the church. A single but heavy molding covers the door at the interior wall. This door like the five windows in each of the side walls of the chancel are set deep into the walls, suggesting their depth.The transepts are wide with stone floors. A small arched door in the south transept leads to a small chapel that lies alongside the chancel. (Continued)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- ☐ Pre-Columbian ☐ 16th Century ☐ 18th Century ☐ 20th Century
☐ 15th Century ☐ 17th Century ☒ 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 7/1848 2/5/1850 1871-1881

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|---|--|
| ☐ Aboriginal | ☐ Education | ☐ Political | ☐ Urban Planning |
| ☐ Prehistoric | ☐ Engineering | ☒ Religion/Philosophy | ☐ Other (Specify) |
| ☐ Historic | ☐ Industry | ☐ Science | _____ |
| ☐ Agriculture | ☐ Invention | ☐ Sculpture | _____ |
| ☒ Architecture | ☐ Landscape | ☐ Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| ☐ Art | ☐ Literature | ☐ Theater | _____ |
| ☐ Commerce | ☐ Military | ☐ Transportation | _____ |
| ☐ Communications | ☐ Music | | |
| ☐ Conservation | | | |

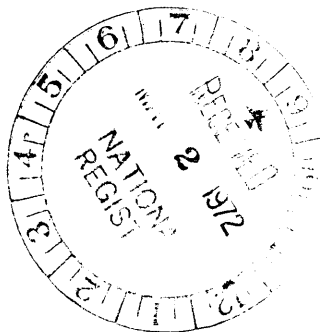
STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This church is of utmost significance because it is a clear example of the American "proper" English Parish Gothic churches.

The architect of this church, Frank Wills, was second to none as a master architect of churches in our country and Canada. He shows in the Gothic Revival style, skillful handling of churches with ornamentation but with utilitarian purposes. He is faithful to the European principles and precedents. He also designed in such a way to save cost.

Wills was Official Architect of the New York Ecclesiological Society. He relied heavily on his Newark works to fully support his place in history in the fast moving Gothic Revival Movement.

Christ Church was conceived by the Episcopal Bishop Doane of New Jersey as a free pew "house of prayer" especially for the working class of Newark. Its location among the factories of Newark attests to this.



9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Schnall, Kenneth B., A Survey of Ecclesiastical Architecture Built in Newark from 1810-1865, 1965 Thesis, Newark State College, Newark Public Library

Stanton, Phoebe E., The Gothic Revival and American Church Architecture, Hopkins, 1906, Files Episcopal Diocese of Newark

Wills, Frank, The Gothic Revival and American Church Architecture, 1850, Upjohn Collection

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES				
CORNER	LATITUDE				LONGITUDE				
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	°	'	"	°	'	"	40 °	43 '	48 "
NE	°	'	"	°	'	"	74 °	09 '	47 "
SE	°	'	"	°	'	"			
SW	°	'	"	°	'	"			

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:		historian
Donald J. Geyer, licensed "professional planner" and architectural		
ORGANIZATION	DATE	9/71
STREET AND NUMBER:		
351 Broad Street		
CITY OR TOWN:	STATE	CODE
Newark	New Jersey	31

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National ☐ State ☐ Local ☒

Name Richard J. Sullivan
Richard J. Sullivan

Title Commissioner, Department of Environmental Protection

Date April 25, 1972

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Robert M. Wiley
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 7/31/72

ATTEST:
John Bradford
Keeper of The National Register

Date 7/19/72

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Continuation Sheet)(1)

STATE New Jersey	
COUNTY Essex	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
JUL 31 1972	

(Number all entries)

San American C.M.A. Church

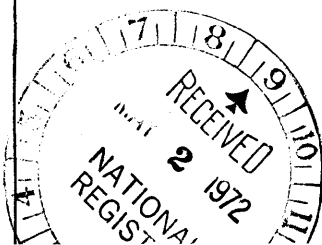
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Section 7: Continued

A similar room on the north side of the chancel is used as a sacristy. Some of the floor space in the south transept is used for amen pews and a baptismal area.The chancel is not quite as wide as the nave but is set quite deep. This appearance of depth is increased because the chancel has a three step bema with a small apse beyond the altar. The deep chancel and apse were added after the construction of the main part of the church. The entire chancel and apse has a plaster and lath ceiling that rests under an outer peaked roof. This can be observed from the outside of the church because a small round window in the apse cannot be seen in the interior indicating a higher outer roof. The chancel ceiling is a single ribbed vault with a heavy center boss. The large arched entrance to the chancel is similar in shape to the small arched opening to the apse. Both entrances are capped by a heavy hood molding. The corners of the chancel vault rest on four simple engaged columns with heavy but plain capitals. Lancet windows are set high on each side wall of the chancel and provide a bright light to the open vault. The walls of the small apse are a continuation of the ribs in the chancel ceiling. These ribs divide the apse wall into three distinct sections. The center section acts as a backdrop for the large white soapstone altar which was placed in the church some time after the building was first built. A considerable part of the altar was cut down to keep it in tune with the tastes of the present congregation. Heavy brass lanterns are suspended from the tie beams indicating electric wiring must run between the beams. Closed gas ports can be observed in the side wall chancel."

Congressional Representation

Clifford P. Case - United States Senator
Harrison A. Williams - United States Senator
Peter W. Rodino, Jr. - Congressman (10th District)





NPS Number

Jul 31, 1972

Title:

Christ Church

Loc.

Essex, N.J.
 facade from Prospect St

Prospect St. front, from W.

(portion
now)

Newark Pan American CMA (Epist. Miss. Alliance)
SUBJECT: Christ Church (Epis.)

LOCALITY:

Newark, NJ

SOURCE:

D. W. Geyer

(Rev. Emmanuel
M. M. M. M.)

71 Prospect

1971